



City of Alexandria

Transportation Commission

Regular Meeting

November 7, 2012
7:00 p.m.
City Council Workroom

MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Donna Fossum, John Komoroske, Kevin Posey, Josh Sawislak, Louisa Ward, and Justin Wilson

Staff Present: Susan Gygi – T&ES, Sandra Marks – T&ES, Yon Lambert – T&ES, Jeff DuVal – T&ES, Marti Reinfeld - T&ES, Steve Sindiong - T&ES, Karen Callahan – T&ES, Nancy Williams, P&Z, Raymond Mui (DASH)

Others Present: Tina Fink - Toole Design Group

A quorum being present, the Chair called the Transportation Commission meeting to order at 7:10 pm.

1. **October 3, 2012 Minutes**

Commissioner Posey asked if there were any comments regarding the October 3, 2012 meeting minutes. Commissioner Fossum recommended minor edits to the October minutes. A motion to approve the minutes with the minor edits was made, seconded and unanimously approved.

2. **Funding Update**

T&ES staff, Marti Reinfeld reported:

City Council: Adopted FY2013 Legislative Package (Oct 23, 2012) included proposed legislation to grant referendum authority to Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA); endorsed use of State funds for a real-time bus information system for DASH

Commonwealth Transportation Board: CTB received briefing on the results of the SJR 297 Study, proposing a change to the methodology for allocating transit funding.

DRPT: MAP-21 transportation bill eliminates earmarked funds for commuter track access lease fees. If the Commonwealth does not cover fees, the resulting deficit would require increases to jurisdiction subsidies or increased fares. DRPT has not committed to allocating funds and has told jurisdictions to request funds from CTB.

TPB: Approved a call for new CLRP projects, and received information about electric vehicles, Capital Bikeshare and buses operating on shoulders.

WMATA: Approved set of rail service standards and Strategic framework; conducted bus service public hearings, including modifications to Routes 7A, 7E, 7F, 7Y, 8X and 8W in Alexandria.

NVTC: Received a briefing on SJR297 proposals by DRPT.

3. Union Street – Public Hearing

T&ES staff Sandra Marks gave a brief update on the progress of the Union Street Corridor Study. Ms. Marks introduced Tina Fink of Toole Design Group, the vendor contracted for the Union Street Corridor Study. Ms. Fink highlighted that project goals were based on a multi-modal approach implementing complete streets. She indicated the process used for making recommendations was data collection and feedback from the community; that none of the short and long term improvements can be implemented within 12 to 18 months and discussed issues related to those improvements and recommendations. After the consultant's presentation, Chair Posey opened the public hearing. Citizen comment was received from Bert Ely, Jonathan Krall, Chair of the Alexandria Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee, and Nathan Macek, Chair of the Waterfront Commission. Afterwards, the public hearing was closed and discussions ensued among Commissioners and staff. A motion was passed to approve the Union Street Corridor Study recommendations and forward to City Council.

4. Potomac Yard Metrorail Station Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

T&ES staff Susan Gygi gave an update on the Potomac Yard Metrorail Station EIS indicating the study area, where the project is in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process and the overall process to date. She spoke about the technical results to date, preliminary cost estimates and the environmental impact assessments. Ms. Gygi communicated the schedule has been delayed due to the archeological investigation and additional visual surveys. The next meeting of the PYMIG Work Group is January 30, 2013 from 6:30-8:30pm at City Hall in the Council Workroom.

5. FY 2014-23 CIP

T&ES staff Sandra Marks reported that as part of the City budget process, a ten-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) is developed to program funding for major capital projects. Funding for CIP comes from the City's general fund, grants, a 2.2 cent real estate property tax and other non-City sources of funding including developer contributions. For the FY 2013-22 CIP, the Transportation Commissioners recommended to staff to maintain funding priorities and levels from the FY 2012 Transportation Improvement Program, limit funding adjustments and to maintain funds for the highest priorities set by the Commission. Over the past four years there has been an increase in non-motorized and transit projects with decreases in street and bridge projects to be consistent with the 2008 Transportation Master Plan. A motion was approved to continue to provide guidance with the previously expressed priorities of the Commission.

6. Complete Streets Update

T&ES staff Yon Lambert gave an overview on the City's annual paving program. Every three to four years, the City does a physical assessment of all the roads in the City. A pavement rating is assigned to each section of the streets to be informed of street conditions. An annual paving plan is created based on funding levels. There has not been sufficient funds to rehabilitate all the streets that are in need. The paving plan is coordinated with the bike/pedestrian mobility plan. In the 2013 City budget, the Complete Streets Policy received

\$350,000 for projects funding, \$100,000 for maintenance of complete streets infrastructure and funding for a Complete Streets Coordinator to oversee and implement the program. Since the Complete Streets Policy has gone into effect, development plans must provide missing infrastructure related to pedestrian, bicycle, ADA accessibility, transit and vehicular improvements on site and in the vicinity.

7. Staff Updates

The Commission received a written staff update on the Crystal City-Potomac Yard Route 1 Transitway, and the Beauregard Small Area Plan.

As part of the Beauregard Small Area Plan update, regarding the motion that was made by the BRAG concerning the Alternatives Report (as summarized in the November Staff Update), Ms. Fossum noted that it should be amended to say that “at this level of design, the preferred alternative is consistent with the Beauregard Small Area Plan”.

8. Commission Updates

- Transportation Commissioners will elect a new Chair and Vice Chair at the December meeting.
- Permanently changing the start time of the Transportation Commission monthly meetings from 7:30 pm to 7:00 pm will be discussed at the December meeting.
- A Transportation Commission representative is needed to attend the Beauregard Implementation Group’s meeting next week.

9. Other Business

- What’s Next Alexandria kick-off meeting is November 15, 2012. All citizens of Alexandria are invited and encouraged to attend. .

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made at 9:28 pm, seconded, voted on and unanimously approved.